

DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

Agenda Item 1.7: to consider issues concerning the amateur and amateur-satellite services:

1.7.1 possible revision of Article 25;

Background Information: At WRC-95, one administration proposed to delete from Article 25 the requirement that amateurs demonstrate Morse code capability to be licensed to operate on frequencies below 30 MHz. Instead, a review of Article 25 was placed on the preliminary agenda for WRC-99. At WRC-97, this agenda item was moved to the preliminary agenda for WRC-01. At WRC-2000, the item was confirmed on the agenda for WRC-03.

Article 25 contains 11 paragraphs, only one of which relates to the Morse code requirement. In 1996, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), an ITU Sector Member, initiated a review of the entire Article by publishing a discussion paper and soliciting comment. Several iterations of the paper and discussions at three regional conferences over a three-year period culminated in the adoption of a consensus view in 1998. This consensus view supports the following principles:

- Retention of the requirement that administrations shall verify the technical and operational qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station. The specific qualifications are subject to change over time and more appropriately belong in an ITU-R Recommendation. Accordingly, Recommendation ITU-R M.1544 was developed in Working Party 8A.
- Protection of the non-commercial nature of the amateur and amateur-satellite services.
- Inclusion of specific provisions to recognize the disaster communications role of the amateur service and to facilitate global roaming by amateur stations.
- Relief from existing prohibition on transmitting international communications on behalf of third parties.
- Elimination of the provision forbidding radiocommunications between amateurs of different countries if the administration of one of the countries has notified that it objects to such communications.
- Elimination of redundant provisions that simply repeat regulations that apply generally to all radio services.

Proposal:

ARTICLE 25

Amateur services

Section I – Amateur service

USA/ /1
SUP

25.1 § 1

Reasons: No longer required. An administration has the necessary authority to determine the points of communication of amateur stations it has licensed.

USA/ /2
ADD

25.1 § 1 Administrations shall verify the technical and operational qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station.

Reasons: To renumber and editorially simplify No. **25.6**.

USA/ /3
MOD

25.2 § 2 1) ~~When transmissions between amateur stations of different countries are permitted, they shall be made in plain language and shall be limited to messages of a technical nature relating to tests and to remarks~~ limited to communications incidental to the purposes of the amateur service or of a personal character for which, by reason of their unimportance, recourse to the public telecommunications service is not justified.

2) Except with the authority of the relevant administration granted to meet a particular operational need, transmissions between amateur stations shall not be encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning.

Reasons: To eliminate obsolete restrictions while retaining the non-commercial nature of the amateur service and to update the “plain language” requirement by replacing it with “not encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning.”

USA/ /4
SUP

25.3 2) It is absolutely forbidden for amateur stations to be used for transmitting international communications on behalf of third parties.

Reasons: No longer required. Privatized telecommunications services do not require protection from bypass. The cost of telecommunications services is now so low that the amateur service is not an attractive alternative except in rare cases of isolated stations. Other regulations are sufficient to protect the non-commercial nature of the service.

USA/ /5
ADD

25.3 § 3 Administrations are urged to take the steps necessary to allow amateur stations to prepare for and meet communication needs in the event of a natural disaster.

Reasons: To recognize the disaster communications capability of the amateur service consistent with Recommendation ITU-R M.1042-1, which recommends that administrations encourage the development of amateur networks capable of providing communications in the event of natural disasters and that amateur organizations be allowed to exercise their networks periodically during normal non-disaster periods.

USA/ /6
SUP

25.4 3)

Reasons: No longer required. To eliminate the administrative burden of the necessity of making special arrangements between countries.

USA/ /7
ADD

25.4 § 4 An administration may, without issuing a licence, permit a person who has been granted a license to operate an amateur station by another administration, to operate an amateur station while that person is temporarily in its territory, subject to such conditions or restrictions it may impose.

Reasons: Article **18** requires that all transmitting stations be licensed but provides for special arrangements in certain circumstances. None of these special arrangements applies to the amateur and amateur-satellite services. The proposed addition makes it clear that administrations are authorized and encouraged to permit visiting amateurs to operate without being required to issue them a licence while protecting the prerogatives of administrations.

USA/ /8
SUP

25.5 § 3 1)

Reasons: To eliminate the requirement to prove Morse code ability and to leave this matter to administrations.

USA/ /9
SUP

25.6 2)

Reasons: To renumber and editorially simplify as No. **25.1**.

USA/ /10
SUP

25.7 § 4

Reasons: Redundant. See No. **15.2**, which provides that “Transmitting stations shall radiate only as much power as is necessary to ensure a satisfactory service.”

USA/ /11
SUP

25.8 § 5 1)

Reasons: To simplify the Regulations by eliminating a redundant provision.

USA/ /12
SUP

25.9 2)

Reasons: Redundant. See Nos. 19.4 and 19.5.

Section II – Amateur-satellite service

USA/ /13
MOD

~~25.105~~ § 65 The provisions of Section I of this Article shall apply equally, as appropriate, to the amateur-satellite service.

Reasons: Consequential renumbering.

USA/ /14
MOD

~~25.116~~ § 76 ~~Space stations in the amateur-satellite service operating in bands shared with other services shall be fitted with appropriate devices for controlling emissions in the event that harmful interference is reported in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 15. Administrations authorizing such space stations shall inform the Bureau and shall ensure that sufficient earth command stations are established before launch to guarantee ensure that any harmful interference which might be reported can be terminated by the authorizing administration (See No. 22.1) caused by emissions from a station in the amateur-satellite service can be immediately eliminated.~~

Reasons: Consequential renumbering and simplification of provision. The first sentence is redundant (see No. 22.1). Procedures for notification to the Bureau are given in Resolution 642 (WARC-79).
